

Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 16080

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, TH
SUBJ: SIAM KRAFT PAPER COMPANY

1. SIAM KRAFT ATTORNEY TALKED WITH CHIEF JUDGE OF CRIMINAL COURT JULY 20 TO INFORM HIM OF NATURE OF PETITION COMPANY INTENDS TO FILE WITH COURT. COMPANY IS SEEKING TO PAY FINE OVER ELEVEN-YEAR PERIOD WITH FIRST PAYMENT ON JANUARY 15, 1978, AND SUBSEQUENT PAYMENTS ON SAME DATE FOR FOLLOWING TEN YEARS. THE JUDGE INDICATED THAT HE COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH SUCH AN EXTENDED AN UNPRECEDENTED REPAYMENT SCHEDULE UNLESS THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AS PLAINTIFF IN THE CASE WOULD INDICATE THAT IT HAD NO OBJECTION TO SUCH A STRETCH-OUT. HE THEREFORE INTENDS TO REFER PETITION TO THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AND ASK THEM TO INFORM HIM IN WRITING WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO SUCH A LONG REPAYMENT PERIOD.

2. THE COMAPNY INTEND S TO BRING MATTER TO ATTENTION OF SOMPORN AT BOARD OF INVESTMENT ASKING HIM TO GET PRIME MINISTER TO EXERCISE INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE TO ASSURE REPLY FROM THEM GOING ALONG WITH THE SIAM KRAFT REQUEST.

3. COMMENT: JUDGE OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT WANT TO BE OUT IN FRONT ALL ALONE IN AGREEING TO UNPRECEDENTED STRETCH-OUT OF FINE PAYMENT. IF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR CONCURS, JUDGE WILL CONSIDER HIMSELF COVERED. HARVEY LEVE BELIEVES
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ABOVE APPROACH ESSENTIAL IN VIEW OF TIME CONSTRAINTS. AMBASSADOR AND UNDER SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WILL BE SEEING PRIME MINISTER MONDAY JULY 22 AT 10:15 A.M. AT WHICH TIME AMBASSADOR WILL RAISE MATTER ALONG LINES AIDE MEMOIRE (BANGKOK 15715) PRESENTED TO MFA UNDER-SECRETARY WONG PHONNIKON JULY 20. PRIME MINISTER IS FULLY AWARE OF IMPLICATIONS OF PROBLEM.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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